

IOWA

The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) is the primary form for requesting registration and/or an absentee ballot from your local election official. Read all instructions printed below and on the FPCA before completing and signing your application.

FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION[illegible]

Application Instructions

Circled letters on the form above correspond to the instructions below. You must complete all shaded areas.

- A.** Your Social Security number is requested.
- B.** Do not leave blank. Enter “N/A” if not applicable or if you are a first time voter.
- C.** Provide the complete street address of your Iowa voting residence. A post office box is not sufficient. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location in Item 7. For example: “on Highway ____, 2 miles past Highway ____, across the street from the ____ gas station.” This address must be different from the one provided in Item 4 and must be within the county or township where you claim legal voting residence.
- D.** Print the complete address where you want your ballot sent — usually your current mailing address. Your current mailing address must be different from the address you provided in Item 3.

- E.** If you do not list a party affiliation, you cannot vote in primary elections. You must indicate your political party affiliation in Item 6 when applying for a primary ballot (Example: Democrat, Republican, Green Party). Political party affiliation is not required if only requesting absentee ballots for other elections. If you are currently registered and want to change your political party affiliation or you have previously declined to indicate a political party and you now want to vote in a primary election, you must submit a completed FPCA to the local election official. Your voter registration record will be changed to reflect the party named on your application.
- F.** Check ONE box.
- G.** You must sign and date the FPCA. When signing, you are swearing or affirming that the information is true and correct.

I. UNIFORMED SERVICES

A. Who Can Do It

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of Iowa and members of the Uniformed Services and their family members. Uniformed Services are defined as the U.S. Armed Forces, merchant marine, commissioned corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

B. Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot

You may use a single FPCA to request ballots for all elections in a calendar year (for local, state and Federal offices).

To request registration and/or an absentee ballot, the local county auditor must receive your FPCA at any time before the election.

C. Casting Your Vote

Ballot Return Deadline: Voted ballot must be postmarked not later than the day before the election. Mail your voted ballot to the local election official so that it arrives not later than noon on the Monday after the election.

Local election officials mail ballots approximately 40 days before primary and general elections. For other elections, ballots are mailed later but will be sent as soon as they are ready.

The affidavit on the ballot return envelope is the registration form. You will be permanently registered when you return the voted ballot.

If you are outside the U.S. and have not received your state ballot in a timely manner, use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot. See instructions in Chapter 2, page 12 and Section I.G.

D. Notary/Witness Requirements

No registration or voting materials are notarized or witnessed.

E. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- Iowa allows you to send the FPCA for registration and absentee ballot request by fax. You must submit the original FPCA by mail.

- Iowa does not allow you to receive the blank ballot by fax.
- Iowa does not allow you to return the voted ballot by fax.

Please refer to Appendix C for specific instructions when transmitting election materials electronically. Use only the following numbers:

DSN 223-5527

(703) 693-5527

1-800-368-8683

F. Application for Registration and Ballot By Proxy

Within 70 days of the general election, your spouse, parent, parent-in-law, adult brother, adult sister, or adult child who resides in your county of voting residence may request registration and an absentee ballot for you. Forms are available from the county auditors and the Secretary of State.

A handwritten request may be sent including the name and signature of the person requesting a ballot, Iowa address, name or date of election for which the ballot is requested (or for all ballots in a calendar year) and other information required to determine the correct ballot for the voter.

G. Special Write-in Absentee Ballot

Iowa provides a state special write-in absentee ballot available 90 days before the general election if you are overseas and unable to vote and return a regular absentee ballot by normal mail delivery within the period provided for regular absentee ballots. This special ballot is not available for the primary election.

The FPCA may be used to request this state special write-in ballot. In Item 7 of the FPCA, place one of the state special write-in labels from Section III.H. If no labels are available, write in Item 7: "To the best of my belief I will be outside the continental U.S. and unable to vote and return a regular absentee ballot by normal mail delivery within the period provided for regular absentee ballots. I request a special write-in absentee ballot."

The state special write-in ballot must be requested not earlier than 90 days before the general election. Vote the ballot by writing in the names of specific candidates.

Notify Your Local Election Official About Your Current Mailing Address

H. Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot

Iowa has expanded the use of the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB). The instructions described in Chapter 2 of this Guide remain the same, except that Iowa also allows the FWAB to be used to vote in state and Federal primaries and in general and special elections to fill vacancies in the U.S. House of Representatives and Iowa Legislature. Iowa also allows the FWAB return envelope to be used as an application for registration if the person is otherwise eligible to vote in Iowa.

Instructions continue in Section III: Uniformed Services & Civilians Outside U.S.

II. CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

A. Who Can Do It

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of Iowa and overseas citizens. The term “overseas citizen” means a U.S. citizen who resides outside the U.S. and (but for such residence) would be qualified to vote in Iowa.

- Iowa residents temporarily residing outside the U.S. (for local, state and Federal office ballots)
- overseas citizens (for local, state and Federal office ballots)
- U.S. citizens who have never resided in the U.S. but have a parent who is eligible to vote in Iowa. These citizens are eligible to vote at the same voting residence claimed by their parent (for local, state and Federal office ballots)

B. Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot

You may use a single FPCA to request ballots for all elections in a calendar year.

To request registration and/or an absentee ballot, the local county auditor must receive your FPCA at any time before the election.

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The affidavit on the ballot return envelope is the registration form. You will be permanently registered when you return the voted ballot.

If you have not received your state ballot in a timely manner, use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot. See instructions in Chapter 2, page 12, and Section II.G.

D. Notary/Witness Requirements

No registration or voting materials are notarized or witnessed.

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Instructions continue in Section III: Uniformed Services & Civilians Outside U.S.

III. UNIFORMED SERVICES & CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

A. Bars to Registration and Voting

Persons convicted of a felony or declared mentally incompetent to vote may not register or vote.

B. Cancellation of Registration

Registration is canceled after name is on the inactive list for two successive general elections.

C. Action on Registration Requests

The local election official will send an acknowledgment to the applicant at the mailing address provided on the FPCA.

D. Action If Registration Is Denied

Persons denied registration or ballot may appeal. Consult a legal assistance officer or civilian counsel.

E. Voting by Citizens Who Have Never Lived in the U.S.

If a U.S. citizen outside the U.S. has never lived in the U.S. and either parent is a qualified Iowa voter, then that person is eligible to register and vote where his or her parent is a qualified voter.

F. Late Registration

Members of the Armed Forces or merchant marine who have been discharged within thirty days of an election may register and vote in that election by presenting the precinct election official with his or her discharge papers.

G. Where to Send it

Mail the FPCA to the County Auditor, county of voting residence, as listed below:

County	County Seat	Zip Code
Adair	Greenfield	50849-1291
Adams	Corning	50841-0028
Allamakee	Waukon	52172-1700
Appanoose	Centerville	52544-1794
Audubon	Audubon	50025-1255
Benton	Vinton	52349-0549
Black Hawk	Waterloo	50703-4774
Boone	Boone	50036-3992
Bremer	Waverly	50677-3536
Buchanan	Independence	50644-0317
Buena Vista	Storm Lake	50588-2371
Butler	Allison	50602-0325
Calhoun	Rockwell City	50579-1487
Carroll	Carroll	51401-2413
Cass	Atlantic	50022-1497
Cedar	Tipton	52772-1752
Cerro Gordo	Mason City	50401-3254
Cherokee	Cherokee	51012-1700
Chickasaw	New Hampton	50659-0311
Clarke	Osceola	50213-1291
Clay	Spencer	51301-3860
Clayton	Elkader	52043-0416
Clinton	Clinton	52733-2957
Crawford	Denison	51442-0423
Dallas	Adel	50003-1482
Davis	Bloomfield	52537-1600
Decatur	Leon	50144-1647
Delaware	Manchester	52057-1796
Des Moines	Burlington	52601-0784
Dickinson	Spirit Lake	51360-1259
Dubuque	Dubuque	52001-7056
Emmet	Estherville	51334-2254
Fayette	West Union	52175-0267
Floyd	Charles City	50616-2790
Franklin	Hampton	50441-0026
Fremont	Sidney	51652-0610
Greene	Jefferson	50129-2144
Grundy	Grundy Center	50638-1496
Guthrie	Guthrie Center	50115-1331
Hamilton	Webster City	50595-3195
Hancock	Garner	50438-0070
Hardin	Eldora	50627-1700
Harrison	Logan	51546-1398
Henry	Mount Pleasant	52641-0149
Howard	Cresco	52136-1526
Humboldt	Dakota City	50529-0100
Ida	Ida Grove	51445-1497
Iowa	Marengo	52301-0126
Jackson	Maquoketa	52060-2295
Jasper	Newton	50208-0944
Jefferson	Fairfield	52556-2820

County	County Seat	Zip Code	County	County Seat	Zip Code
Johnson	Iowa City	52240-4207	Pocahontas	Pocahontas	50574-1694
Jones	Anamosa	52205-0109	Polk	Des Moines	50309-4757
Keokuk	Sigourney	52591-1499	Pottawattamie	Council Bluffs	51501-0649
Kossuth	Algona	50511-2643	Poweshiek	Montezuma	50171-0057
Lee	Fort Madison	52627-0190	Ringgold	Mount Ayr	50854-1642
Linn	Cedar Rapids	52404-2178	Sac	Sac City	50583-1750
Louisa	Wapello	52653-0186	Scott	Davenport	52801-1187
Lucas	Chariton	50049-1764	Shelby	Harlan	51537-1441
Lyon	Rock Rapids	51246-1597	Sioux	Orange City	51041-0018
Madison	Winterset	50273-0152	Story	Nevada	50201-2084
Mahaska	Oskaloosa	52577-3189	Tama	Toledo	52342-1300
Marion	Knoxville	50138-2598	Taylor	Bedford	50833-1394
Marshall	Marshalltown	50158-4978	Union	Creston	50801-2430
Mills	Glenwood	51534-1756	Van Buren	Keosauqua	52565-0475
Mitchell	Osage	50461-1229	Wapello	Ottumwa	52501-2518
Monona	Onawa	51041-1699	Warren	Indianola	50125-0237
Monroe	Albia	52531-2075	Washington	Washington	52353-0889
Montgomery	Red Oak	51566-0469	Wayne	Corydon	50060-0435
Muscatine	Muscatine	52761-4168	Webster	Fort Dodge	50501-3892
O'Brien	Primghar	51245-0803	Winnebago	Forest City	50436-1793
Osceola	Sibley	51249-1698	Winneshie	Decorah	52101-1775
Page	Clarinda	51632-2197	Woodbury	Sioux City	51101-1246
Palo Alto	Emmetsburg	50536-0095	Worth	Northwood	50459-1599
Plymouth	Le Mars	51031-2190	Wright	Clarion	50525-0147

Your Vote, His Vote, Her Vote, Our Vote, Are Votes

by Jacqueline E. Clark, USMC, Albany, Georgia

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